

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 have been canceled. Claims 4-23 have been added. Claims 4-23 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 were objected to for a number of informalities. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled, and therefore, the objections are moot.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled, and therefore, the rejections are moot.

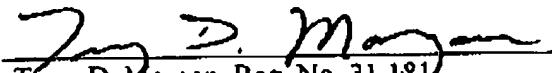
Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pare (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,723). Claims 1-3 have been cancelled, and therefore, the rejections are moot.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of newly added claims 4-23, as these claims are not anticipated by Pare.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4050 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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